COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

On behalf of the Stanly County Board of Commissioners, it is my pleasure to present to the community the 14th annual Report to the People. This annual report helps demonstrate and highlight programs and activities that are carried out for the benefit of the public and our taxpayers. It is the County’s goal to provide services in the most effective and financially responsible way.

Below please find a list of some, but not all, of the major accomplishments in 2017:

- Maintained the tax rate for the 11th consecutive year
- Increased operational funding and capital funding to the local school system
- Provided an additional $150,000 for teacher supplements
- Purchased 76 acres on Pikes Hill Rd. in Stanfield for the development of the Rivestorne Industrial Park
- Secured a $950,000 NC Commerce grant to offset the cost of running utilities to the new Rivestorne Industrial Park
- Consolidated and began the process of integrating health and social services to better align resources and streamline the process for accessing and delivering services
- Increased funding for additional EMS personnel
- Increased funding for additional Sheriff’s Office personnel to assist with increased drug enforcement
- Secured a $500,000 grant from the Golden LEAF Foundation to improve the delivery and reliability of water services in the Greater Badin district
- Continued the planning and fundraising efforts for a new livestock arena at the Agri-Civic Center

The Board of Commissioners has established strategic areas of focus such as enhancing education and workforce development, increasing job opportunities, improving public safety and expanding utility services. Progress is being made, and the Board will continue to identify investments that will improve our overall performance.

We believe the information contained in this report demonstrates our commitment to outstanding customer service and a results-oriented government. Please take a few moments to review and do not hesitate to contact any of the County Commissioners if you have questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Joseph L. Burleson, Chairman
Stanly County Board of Commissioners

TRANSPORTATION

Airport

The Airport continues to see growth in both general aviation and military activities.

Presley Aviation, Inglewood Aviation and Dallas Airrime continue to offer their services to the aviation community from the airport.

The 235th Air Traffic Squadron continues to support the airport and tower activities.

Begun Environmental Assessment and planning a new airport layout to integrate the new requirements to accommodate the conversion from C130H to C17 aircraft. The conversion will have a significant impact on the airport as we continue to provide support for military training exercises.

CULTURE & RECREATION

Stanly County Agri-Civic Center

- Feed/Raam/Sprinkler System Inspection and Remediation
- Electronic/Handicap Access Opener installed on main entrance door
- Lobby Expansion Rennovations including installation of new Luxury Vinyl Tile (LVT) flooring throughout entire Lobby
- The Friends of the Agri-Civic Center (FACC) contributed $25,000 towards the Lobby Floor

Stanly County Library & History Center

The Stanly County Museum and Margaret Johnston Heritage Room relocated to the new History Center located on 2nd Street in Albemarle (formally City Hall Annex). The weekly Time Traveling Toddlers and the monthly STEAM programs are held at the History Center.

- The number of visitors to the Stanly County Museum increased significantly after the move, increasing from 1,503 in 2016 to 2,445 in 2017.
- The Historical Society has an average of 100 monthly participants.
- The Heritage Room at the Main Branch was converted into our new Learning Lounge. This space is used to conduct our storyline programs while maintaining a quiet library.
- Received a $5,000 grant from the Stanly County Community Foundation to purchase an Apple Smart Board and added online books from Tumblebooks used during storytimes; these interactive books can be checked out by all library cardholders.
- All library branches offer interactive programs for their communities.
- 3,246 children participated in 100 programs across the county to encourage reading during the summer.
- The libraries and museum could not offer many of these wonderful programs and services to the citizens of Stanly County without help from the Stanly County Friends of the Library and the Stanly County Historical Society.

Please see separate pages for more information.
Emergency Management

Stanly County Emergency Services is a tiered department: Emergency Management, Emergency Medical Service (EMS), and the Fire Marshal’s Office (FMO). Emergency Management defines an "all-hazards" approach to preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation of any natural, man-made or terrorist disaster. This is a evolving, cyclic process. Annually, EM identifies and/or prioritizes all hazard vulnerabilities or any new threats and disaster. This is a revolving, cyclic process. Annually, EM office has been actively involved in monitoring the new towers for the Public Safety Radio System. Wireless monitoring devices were placed on the tower generators to provide live notifications for alarms which assures constant functionality. We continue to maintain a Storm Ready status, monitoring for severe weather throughout the year. The Local Emergency Planning Committee also continues with an all-hazards approach to disaster planning.

Sheriff’s Office Operations & Public Safety

EM response calls are tracked, monitored, and reviewed for departmental training exercises with local and state partners. The EM office has been actively involved in monitoring the new towers for the Public Safety Radio System. Wireless monitoring devices were placed on the tower generators to provide live notifications for alarms which assures constant functionality. We continue to maintain a Storm Ready status, monitoring for severe weather throughout the year. The Local Emergency Planning Committee also continues with an all-hazards approach to disaster planning.

Fire Service

In 2017, Stanly County EMS responded to approximately 10,198 calls. We continue to operate six (6) Advanced Life Support ambulances and seven (7) Basic Life Support ambulances in our overall call volume. Our training department continues to stay abreast of the changes in the local and national pre-hospital environment and works with our New Medical Director, Dr. Christine Hall to implement changes in our overall call volume. Our training department continues to stay abreast of the changes in the local and national pre-hospital environment and works with our New Medical Director, Dr. Christine Hall to implement changes in our overall call volume.

Public Safety

EM continues to adapt and grow with the ever changing pre-hospital medical practices.

• We responded to 547 fire inspections and reviewed 85 commercial plans.
• Responded to 73 fire investigation/call-backs for service and continues to make comprehensive fire investigations a priority. Staff from the Fire Marshal’s Office also completed numerous hours of training in various fields ranging from fire investigations to emergency management and participated in joint training exercises with local and state partners.
• Please remember – everyone needs a smoke alarm in their home! Should anyone have a need or inquire of anyone needing a FREE smoke alarm installed, please contact the Stanly County Fire Marshal’s Office. The Fire Marshal’s Office, our local Fire Departments and other Public Safety professionals continue to work together and create new partnerships to assist in the arena of Fire & Life Safety Education Programs.

The Fire Marshall’s Office continues to strive for excellence in service.

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• In collaboration with multiple community agencies including Daymark, Wellness Place, Stanly County Health Department, and Stanly County Schools, the team provides services to children and adults.

• Implemented an employee health clinic for county employees to help address increasing costs of medical care. There were 1,003 visits to the employee health clinic.

• The children’s dental clinic provided services through 7,475 clinic visits and provided dental treatment to 1,786 patients through the operating room at CHS Stanly Hospital. The clinic is continuing to provide free dental sealants to all 2nd and 4th grade students in Stanly County Schools. The dental clinic participated in a research project with UNC Chapel Hill for Silver Diamine Fluoride placement. Patients in the study included children with extensive and severe dental decay, and provided dental treatment to 178 patients through the operating room.

• Stancare Health completed 1,061 Food and Lodging visits related to inspection of food service, institution, daycare, and lodging facilities. There were 1,503 visits to the employee health clinic, with 35 cats.

• Special rabies clinics in the county resulted in vaccinations of 227 dogs and 35 cats.

• Stanly County Home Health Agency maintained an average monthly caseload of 165 and conducted 14,919 patient visits.

• Environmental Health completed 208 Food Protection visits related to the inspection of food service, institution, daycare, and lodging facilities. There were 1,503 visits to the employee health clinic, with 35 cats.

• Animal Control received 1,767 stray or unwanted pets. There were 134 animals reclaimed by owners and 142 adopted or placed in new homes. Special rabies clinics in the county resulted in vaccinations of 227 dogs and 35 cats.

• The 2017 State of the County Health Report provided a review of health and human services data to monitor the health status of the county. It highlights efforts that are underway to address primary community health concerns about substance abuse, asthma, and obesity.

• Coordinated efforts of the Stanly County Partners in Health Coalition, which promotes and enhances a range of activities to address health issues such as obesity, injury prevention, substance use disorders, physical activity and tobacco use. Efforts continue in the implementation of the Project Lazarus model that has been successful in other counties in addressing prescription drug abuse. Some of the Project Lazarus implementations include medication drop box, community education on proper medication storage, and overdose awareness.

• In collaboration with Partners in Health coalition, continued to support the efforts of the Stanly County Minority Health Council, which seeks to improve health outcomes for minority populations and reduce health disparities.

• With the goal of increasing the availability of high-quality and nutritious foods to families with the greatest risk of having poor health, the Stanly Commons Farmers Market continues to be coordinated by the health department.

• The nutrition program served 16,960 congregate meals from the four senior centers in the county. This accreditation enables this office to access electronic files for government funded programs.

• Since 1986, the Senior Services Department has been providing quality services, programs, activities and opportunities to promote and enhance the well-being of seniors.

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• The Stancare Health System Stanly, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, 33rd Street Senior Center

• First Step. Project First Step’s mission is to remove barriers to detox and treatment and assist participants in building a recovery support system.

• Approximately 485 individuals visit the office on a daily basis.

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Facilities Management

Facilities Management is responsible for maintaining all county road signs, nine (9) convenience sites and over twenty (20) buildings and grounds which are owned or occupied by county departments.

Facilities Management

Work orders
2,140
Average work orders per day
8.68
Hours spent on other facility projects
3,160.5
Road signs replaced or repaired
396
Signs set up for Planning & Zoning
45

Information Technology/GIS

2017 was focused on security enhancements and switch upgrades. We rolled out a next generation Anti-Virus/Anti-Malware solution that provides a commensurate level of protection against the sophisticated threats of today’s cyber landscape. Given that the human error is usually the weakest link in the cyber security chain, we have implemented an end user cyber security awareness training program for all employees. We are in the process of a four-phase upgrade on all network switches to provide all computer systems with more bandwidth, security, and manageability.

• Replaced console at the south and parking lot (Courthouse)
• New Generator at radio tower (SOO)
• Replaced three HVAC units on the roof (Commons)
• Utilities moved into a new office (Guard Road)
• Remodeled offices
• Finished remodel at History Center
• Remodeled offices (Mapping/GIS)

ASSUMED BUSINESS NAMES IMPORTANT NOTICE OF LAWS

EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2017, a new North Carolina law requires individuals and general partnerships, limited partnerships, corporations, and other persons that engage in business in this state under an assumed name to file a declaration of assumed name. Amendments to and withdrawals of certificates of assumed business names also must comply with content and execution requirements. These Certificates will be transmitted into a statewide, central database maintained by the N.C. Secretary of State, which will be available for search by the public. The Secretary of State will maintain a website for this purpose at www.sos.nc.gov/abvform. Searches are available in this office upon request and may be downloaded from the Business Link North Carolina (BLINC) eServices. A certificate of assumed names filed under the prior law will expire DECEMBER 1, 2022. Someone dealing to engage in business in N.C. under the assumed name must file the new form.

The Register of Deeds is mission public record keeping. It is the duty of this office to safeguard essential information which the people rely on to protect property and to prove and acquire important items of personal estate. These documents are public record and range from real estate conveyances, deeds of trust, cancellations of deeds of trust, Uniform Commercial Code, powers of attorney, assumed names, separation agreements, real maintenance agreements and many more. Military records can also be recorded for safekeeping only available to the owner or their widow.

• Processed 21,609 documents (increase of 12%)
• Excise tax returns totaled $448,814, (increase of 11%)
• Land transfers totaled 2,502, (increase of 15%)
• Bankruptcies went down 46%, Foreclosures went down 38%

We held our third “Thank You for Your Service” program to celebrate and honor our local veterans. More than 575 veterans have benefited from this program. In conjunction with the veterans program we held a service auction raising $1,595.00 for the Stanly County Veteran Relief Fund. We also hosted two Stanly County Blood Drives.

ECONOMIC & PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Cooperative Extension programs are active in all 100 counties through land-grant universities and several specialty programs committed by Extension offices throughout the state. The Cooperative Extension program operates in 752 youth reported increasing knowledge in STEM. 752 youth reported increasing knowledge in STEM. 18 teachers were trained in 4-H STEM curriculum and 89 adults reported increasing their fruit and vegetable consumption; 170 volunteers provided 34,367 hours of time valued at $105,419 and provided $21,746 to supplement state user fees along with gifts and donations totaling $21,746 to supplement state and local dollars. Volunteers increase the impact of what Cooperative Extension staff 348 volunteers provided 34,367 hours of time valued at $105,419 and provided educational information to 6,037 citizens.

Agriculture: Assisted 862 agricultural producers through programs to help them become more profitable and sustainable through increased knowledge of best management practices, 41 field crop growers and 424 livestock producers and 892 agricultural producers through programs to help them become more profitable and sustainable through increased knowledge of best management practices, 41 field crop growers and 424 livestock producers and farmers adopted best management practices as a result of Extension programs and recommendations.

Safe and secure food and farms systems: Offered educational opportunities for private and commercial pesticide applicators to re-certificate.

2017 Zoning Cases

Stanly Min. Housing 6 2 15
Stanley Zoning Ordinance 89 82 44
Baldwin Min. Housing 2 1 7
Norwood Min. Housing 32 14 24
Local Min. Housing 7 7 8
New London Zoning/Min. Housing/Nonissue 4 4 8
Where Your Money Goes
FY 2016-2017: $63,243,166

Where the Money Comes From
FY 2016-2017: $63,243,166

Economic Development Commission
As the lead economic development agency for the area and the key contact with the NC Economic Development Partnership, the NC Department of Commerce, and the Charlotte Regional Partnership the Stanly County Economic Development Commission (EDC) worked on 30 new projects for the year. 2017 was a year of transition for the Department, hiring a new Director and new Economic Development Assistant to reorganize activities in this important function. Activity was brisk on eight projects with multiple client visits and phone calls which led to an announcement early in 2018. The EDC staff also worked on increasing industry outreach with existing industry visits, a survey, and a follow up.

The EDC assisted in the purchase of property in the Stanfield/Locust area to develop as an industrial park. Marketing efforts are underway to bring in businesses that are looking for sites that are close to I-485 and the Charlotte Douglas International Airport.

Unemployment Rate* (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

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<td>Charlotte Region</td>
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<td>United States</td>
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* Source: North Carolina Department of Commerce Division of Employment Security

Utilities
Stanly County Utilities (SCU) is responsible for distributing more than 1.5 million gallons of drinking water every day to more than 5,600 homes, schools, churches and businesses in Stanly County. SCU operates as four water systems – Stanly County, Greater Badin Water & Sewer District, Pevey Point Water and Stanly Water & Sewer. SCU provides wastewater collection and treatment to over 700 customers in the Greater Badin district and collection of wastewater from northern part of Stanly County, the County Airport region, the Town of Red Cross, the communities of Palestine, Millington, Ridgecrest and Aquadale. Our goal is to provide consistent first-rate service to all customers, promote economic development, and expand the system to accommodate more citizens each year.

- Part B construction on Badin’s Replacement of Water System Project.
- Airport Road Corridor Sewer Improvement Project construction began in August.
- Acquired a portion of the Pfeiffer University sewer system to serve private homes in the Village of Misenheimer.
- Operations staff relocated to the former NC Air National Guard Base on Guard Road. Administrative Offices will remain at Stanly Commons.

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FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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<th>Department</th>
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<tr>
<td>AGRI-CIVIC CENTER</td>
<td>(704) 986-3666</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlyciviccenter.com">www.stanlyciviccenter.com</a></td>
<td>Doshia Swaringen</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:dswaringen@stanlycountync.gov">dswaringen@stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
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<td>AIRPORT</td>
<td>(704) 982-9013</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlycountyairport.com">www.stanlycountyairport.com</a></td>
<td>Ken Swaringen</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:kswaringen@stanlycountync.gov">kswaringen@stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
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<td>CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION</td>
<td>(704) 986-3600</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlycountync.gov">www.stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
<td>Andy Lucas, County Manager</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:alucas@stanlycountync.gov">alucas@stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
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<td>CENTRAL PERMITTING</td>
<td>(704) 986-3057</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlycountync.gov">www.stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
<td>Carol Almond</td>
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<td>COMMUNICATIONS</td>
<td>(704) 986-3700</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlycountync.gov">www.stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
<td>Karen McDaniel</td>
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<td>COOPERATIVE EXTENSION</td>
<td>(704) 983-3987</td>
<td>stanly.ces.ncsu.edu</td>
<td>Lori Ivey</td>
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<td>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION</td>
<td>(704) 986-3682</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlyedc.com">www.stanlyedc.com</a></td>
<td>Michael Smith</td>
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<td>ELECTIONS</td>
<td>(704) 986-3647</td>
<td><a href="http://www.votestanlycounty.com">www.votestanlycounty.com</a></td>
<td>Kim Wilson</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:kwilson@stanlycountync.gov">kwilson@stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
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<td>EMERGENCY SERVICES</td>
<td>(704) 986-3650</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlycountync.gov">www.stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
<td>Brian Simpson</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:bsimpson@stanlycountync.gov">bsimpson@stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
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<td>FACILITIES MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>(704) 986-3697</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlycountync.gov">www.stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
<td>Todd Lowder</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:tlowder@stanlycountync.gov">tlowder@stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
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<td>HEALTH DEPARTMENT</td>
<td>(704) 982-9171</td>
<td><a href="http://www.health.co.stanly.nc.us">www.health.co.stanly.nc.us</a></td>
<td>David Jenkins</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:djenkins@stanlycountync.gov">djenkins@stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
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<td>INSPECTIONS</td>
<td>(704) 986-3667</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlycountync.gov">www.stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
<td>Chris Moon</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:cmoon@stanlycountync.gov">cmoon@stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
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<td>LIBRARY</td>
<td>(704) 986-3766</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlycountylibrary.org">www.stanlycountylibrary.org</a></td>
<td>Melanie Holles</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:mholles@stanlycountync.gov">mholles@stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
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<td>PLANNING &amp; ZONING</td>
<td>(704) 986-3660</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlycountync.gov">www.stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
<td>Michael Sandy</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:msandy@stanlycountync.gov">msandy@stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
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<td>REGISTER OF DEEDS</td>
<td>(704) 986-3640</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlyrod.net">www.stanlyrod.net</a></td>
<td>Suzanne Lowder, Register of Deeds</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:slowder@stanlycountync.gov">slowder@stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
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<td>SCUSA TRANSPORTATION</td>
<td>(704) 986-3790</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlycountync.gov">www.stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
<td>Candice Moffitt</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:cmoffitt@stanlycountync.gov">cmoffitt@stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
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<td>SENIOR SERVICES</td>
<td>(704) 986-3769</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlycountync.gov">www.stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
<td>Becky Weemhoff</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:bweemhoff@stanlycountync.gov">bweemhoff@stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
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<td>SHERIFF’S OFFICE</td>
<td>(704) 986-3714</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlysheriff.org">www.stanlysheriff.org</a></td>
<td>George Burris, Sheriff</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:gtburriss@stanlycountync.gov">gtburriss@stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
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<td>SOCIAL SERVICES (DSS)</td>
<td>(704) 982-6100</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlydss.com">www.stanlydss.com</a></td>
<td>Dolly Clayton</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:dhclayton@stanlycountync.gov">dhclayton@stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
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<td>SOIL &amp; WATER CONSERVATION SERVICE</td>
<td>(704) 982-5114</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlycountync.gov">www.stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
<td>Amanda Kirby</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:akirby@stanlycountync.gov">akirby@stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
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<td>SOLID WASTE</td>
<td>(704) 986-3897</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlycountync.gov">www.stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
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<td>TAX ADMINISTRATION</td>
<td>(704) 986-3619</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlytax.com">www.stanlytax.com</a></td>
<td>Clinton Swaringen</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:cswaringen@stanlycountync.gov">cswaringen@stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
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<td>UTILITIES</td>
<td>(704) 986-3686</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlycountync.gov">www.stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
<td>Donna Davis</td>
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<td>VETERANS SERVICES</td>
<td>(704) 986-3694</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanlycountync.gov">www.stanlycountync.gov</a></td>
<td>Rod Barbee</td>
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